



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, March 08, 2018

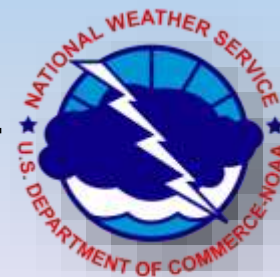
Issued: 0800 CT

Day 1 Weather Hazards: Elevated fire weather conditions in E NM, the Texas Panhandle and the South Plains.

River Flood Status: Major Flooding at isolated points in E AR. Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across E TX and LA.

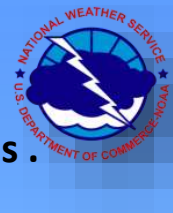
National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX



Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt / Felecia Bowser
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points



Today

- Elevated Fire Weather threat across northeast NM, the TX Panhandle and the South Plains .

Friday

- Elevated Fire Weather threat across east NM as well as the Guadalupe and Davis Mountains.
- There is a marginal risk for strong storms possible across southeast TX Friday evening-night.

Saturday

- Strong to severe storms possible E OK / AR and N LA late Friday night - Saturday.
- Fire weather threat NE NM/TX & OK Panhandles Saturday.

Sunday - Monday

- Lingering rainfall on Sunday may prolong ongoing flooding across AR & N LA.
- Heavy snow possible along higher elevations of N NM.

River Flood Status

- Minor to Major flood stage along the Cache/White and Ouachita Rivers in AR this week and into the weekend. Some poor drainage roads are likely still under water and structures may be threatened. Widespread minor to moderate river flooding will continue this week in E TX/LA.
- The crest on the MS River at Osceola, AR is cresting at 39 feet which is 5 feet above major flood stage. This crest is below the 39.67 feet level observed on Jan 7, 2016.
- Forecasts on the Atchafalaya River have been adjusted to account for higher flow values on the MS River.
- The major flood crest on the Ohio River/upper MS River will move downstream into the Lower MS River later this week/weekend. Moderate to major flooding is expected (similar to May 2017).

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 8, 2018 through Mar 12, 2018

| DAY / THREAT | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN | MON |
|-----------------------------|--|-------|---------------------------|------|-----|
| Severe Storms | | SE TX | E OK/AR/N LA | | |
| Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding | | | AR/N LA | | |
| Fire Weather | NE NM/TX Panhandle/ South Plains/Guadalupe and Davis Mountains | | NE NM TX/OK Panhandles | | |
| Winter | | | | N NM | |
| River Flooding | E & S AR | | | | |
| | E TX/LA | | | | |

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| | No Weather Threats Expected |
| | Very Common – Happens Often |
| | Common – Happens Frequently |
| | Uncommon – A Few Times a Year |
| | Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years |
| | Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years |

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

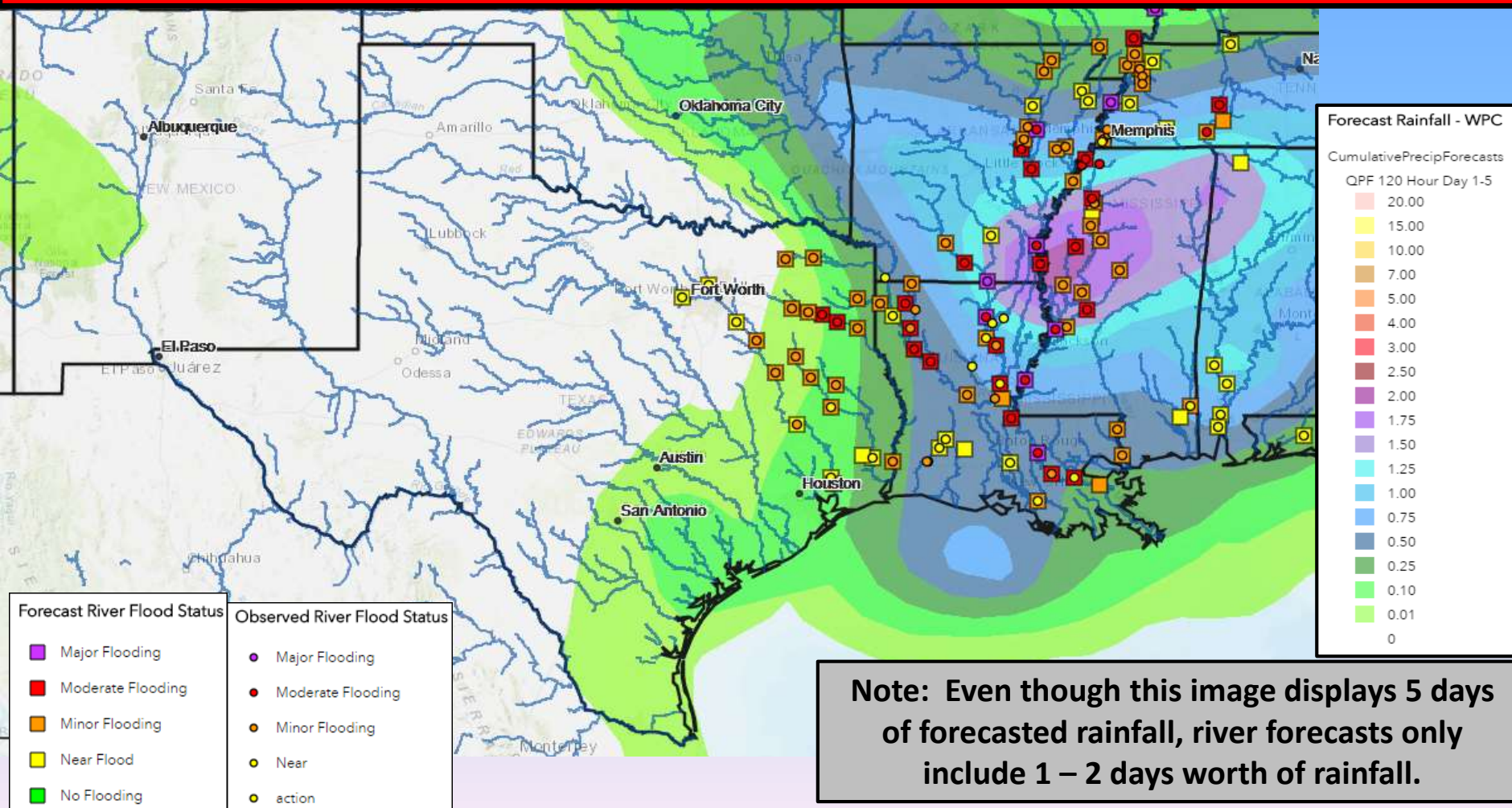


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Major flood stage is occurring or forecast along portions of the Cache, Ouachita, and MS Rivers in E AR.

Widespread minor/moderate river flooding continues across E TX and LA.

OH River cresting at major flood stage will make its way down the Lower MS River in the next week, moderate to major flooding is expected (similar to May 2017).



See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

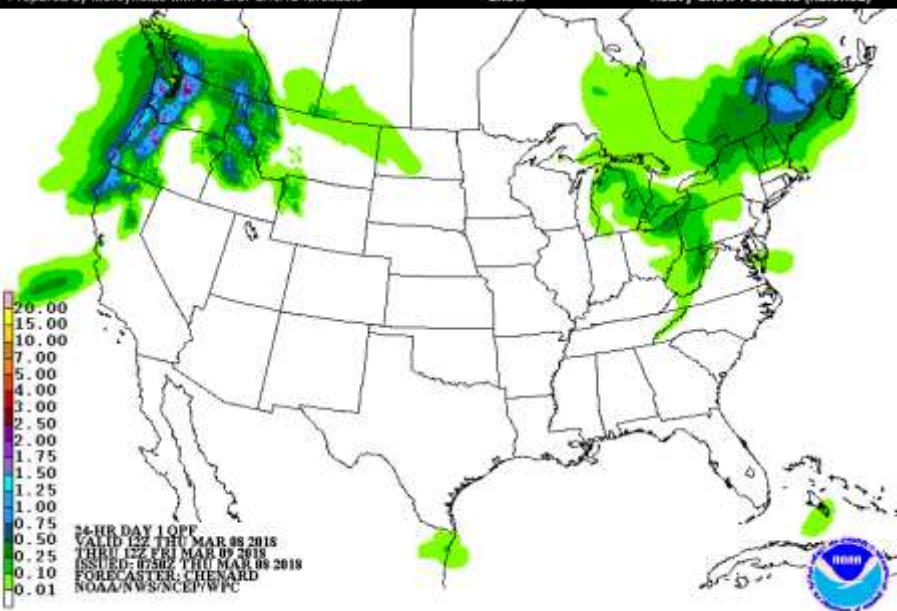
Today's Weather



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Mar 08, 2018, issued 4:38 AM EST
DOC: NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 1 OPI
VALID 12Z THU MAR 08 2018
THRU 12Z FRI MAR 09 2018
ISSUED: 0550Z THU MAR 08 2018
FORECASTER: CHENARD
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Isolated major flooding in NE & S AR.
Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA

Elevated fire weather conditions over E NM today.

Highlighted Area: TENA Region 8

Severe Weather Outlook Thursday, March 08, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 08 2018 0612 AM CST
Valid Until: Mar 09 2018 0600 AM CST



Tomorrow's Weather



Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Mar 09, 2018, issued 4:42 AM EST Thu, Mar 08, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

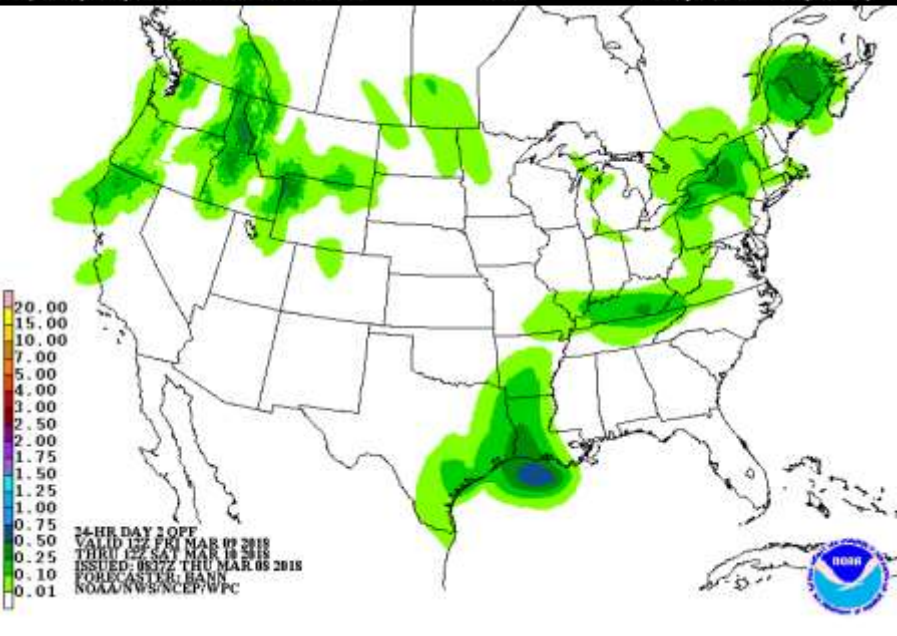
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OFF
VALID 12Z FRI MAR 09 2018
THRU 12Z SAT MAR 10 2018
ISSUED 0637Z THU MAR 08 2018
FORECASTER: JAV
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Isolated major flooding in NE AR.
Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA.

Isolated strong to severe storms possible SE TX.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

Severe Weather Outlook Friday, March 09, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 07 2018 11:50 PM CST
Valid UNOS: Mar 10 2018 0600 AM CST



Saturday's Weather

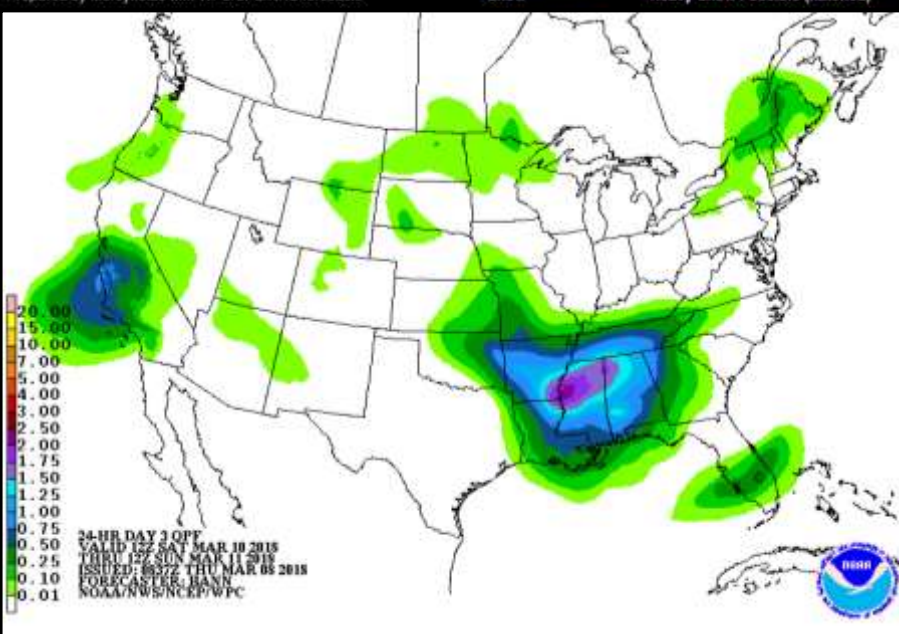


Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Mar 10, 2018, issued 4:44 AM EST Thu, Mar 08, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

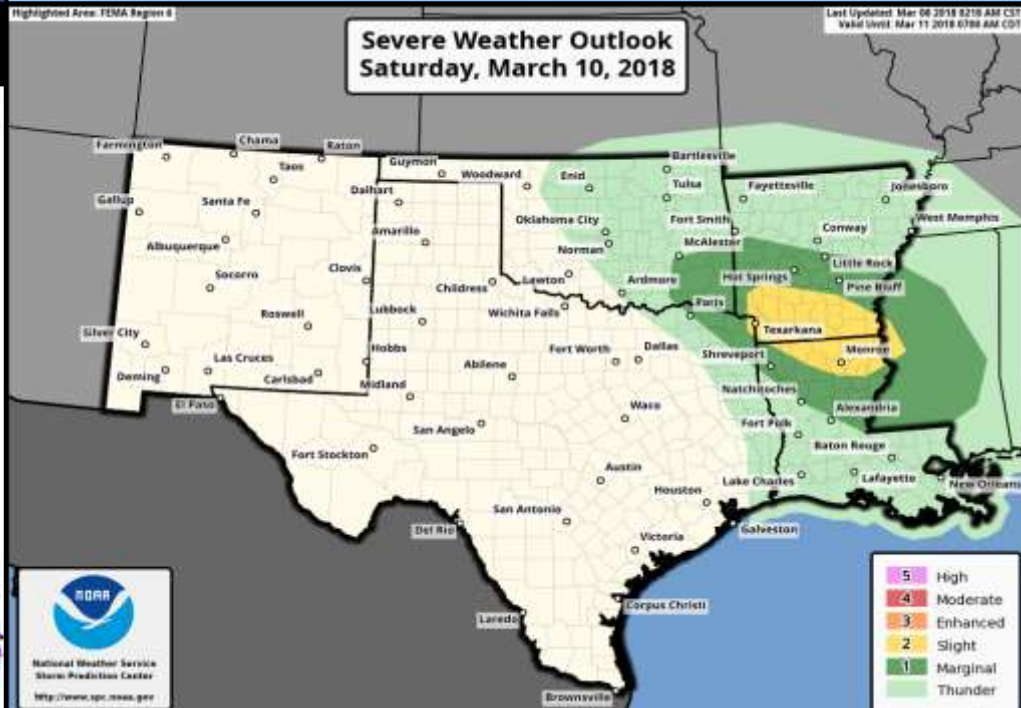


24-HR DAY 3 QPF
VALID 12Z SAT MAR 10 2018
THRU 12Z SUN MAR 11 2018
ISSUED 0652Z THU MAR 08 2018
FORECAST BY NWS/NCEP/WPC
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Isolated major flooding in NE AR.
Minor/moderate flooding across E TX/AR and LA.

Strong to severe storms possible E OK/AR/N LA.

Elevated fire weather conditions over NE NM/ TX and
OK Panhandles.



NOAA
National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

Last Updated: Mar 08 2018 02:10 AM CST
Valid Until: Mar 11 2018 07:00 AM CDT

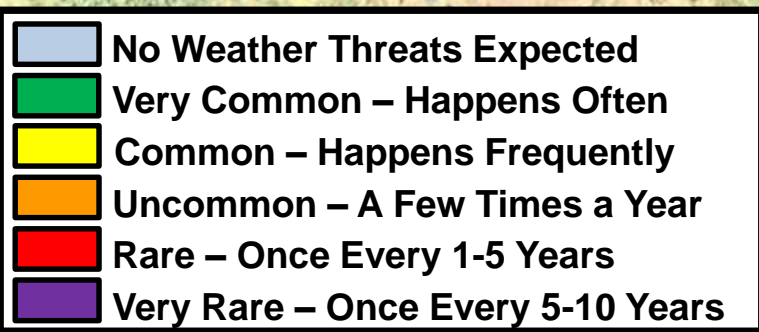
Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday-Monday



Heavy snow possible
higher
elevations
N. NM.

Additional
rainfall
Sunday into
Monday may
prolong
ongoing
flooding
across AR.

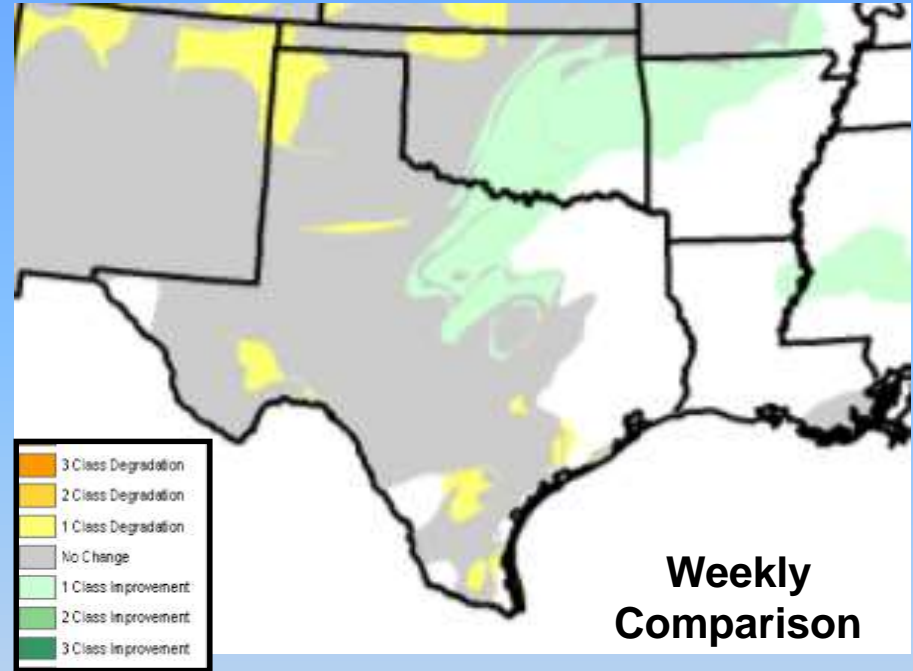
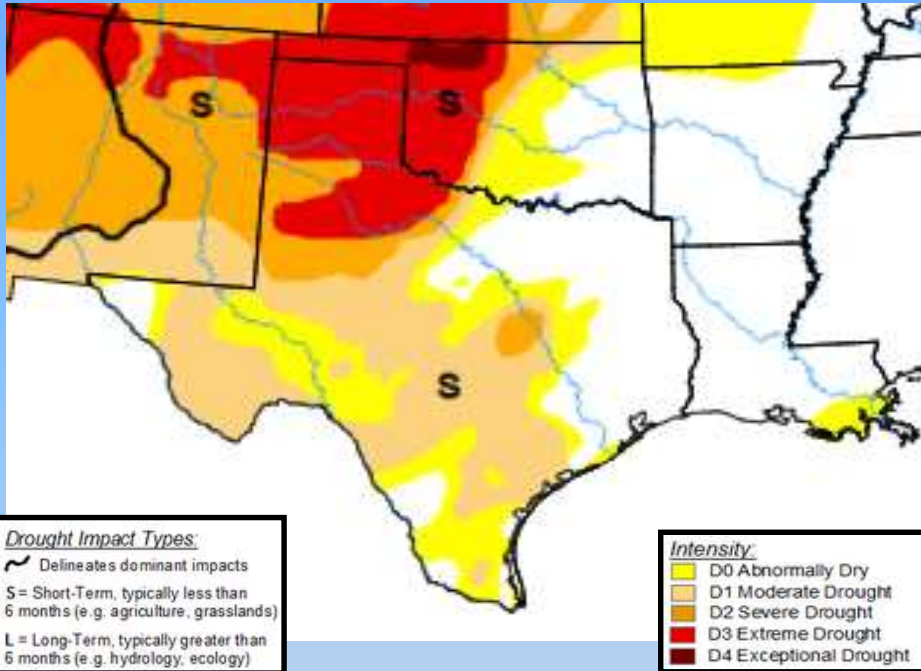


*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released March 8, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 6, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

| State | Current | Last Week | 3 Months Ago | 1 Year Ago |
|------------|---------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Arkansas | 0.00% | 0.00% | 14.66% | 2.00% |
| Louisiana | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Oklahoma | 34.45% | 32.91% | 0.78% | 3.17% |
| Texas | 14.16% | 11.47% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| New Mexico | 17.08% | 5.23% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

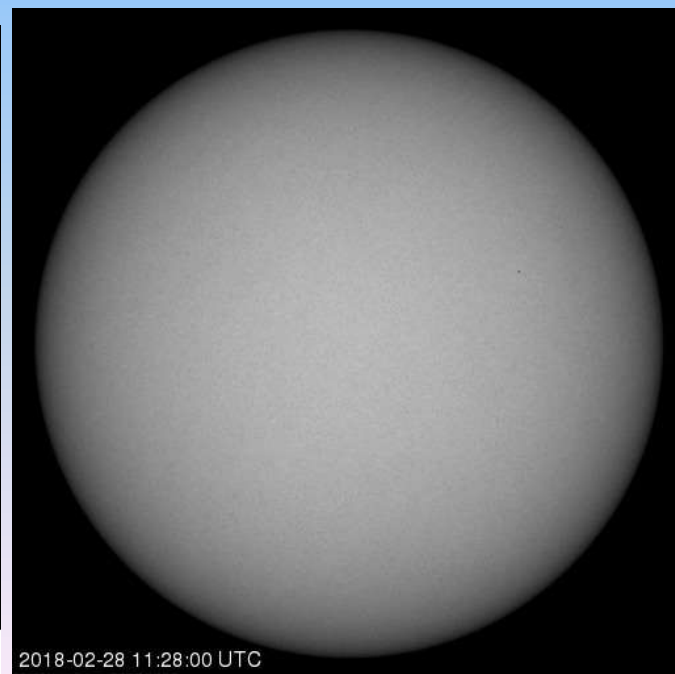
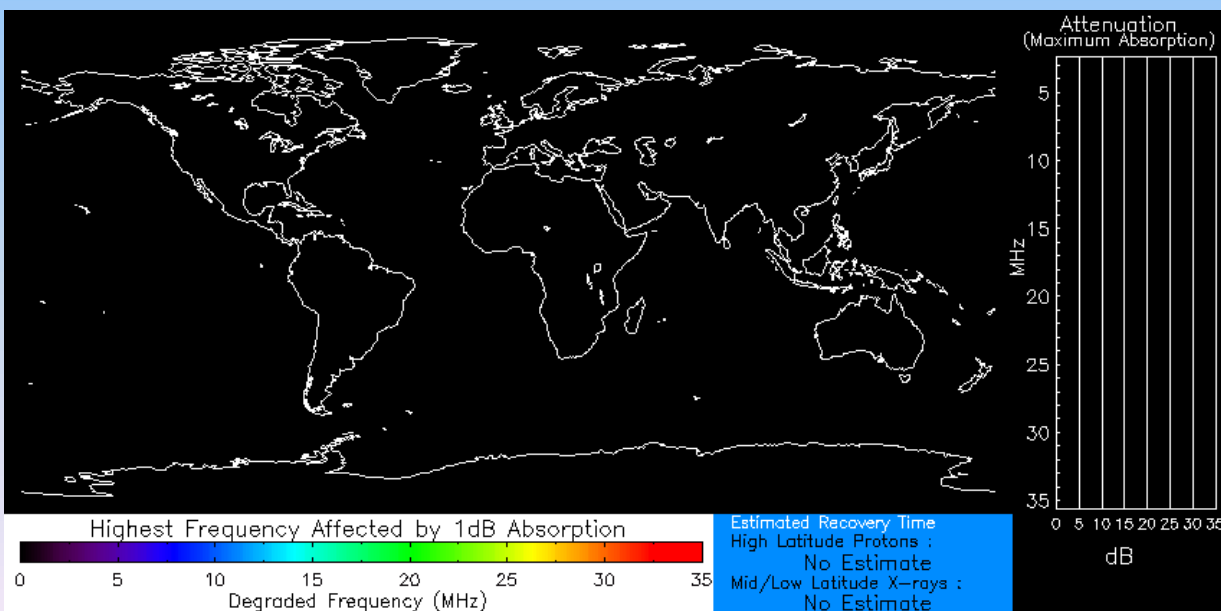
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



| | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Geomagnetic Storms | Quiet (Max Kp = 3) | Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 4) | Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3) |
| Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5) | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Radio Blackout (R1-R2) | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Radio Blackout (R3-R5) | 1% | 1% | 1% |

[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



2018-02-28 11:28:00 UTC

Normal X-ray Background
Product Valid At : 2018-03-08 13:28 UTC

Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

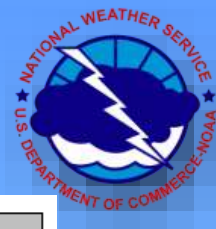
facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



| Weather "Threat" Matrix | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Color | Definition | Criteria | Example(s) |
| Green | Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines | Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX |
| Yellow | Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life | Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail |
| Orange | Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected |
| Red | Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue |
| Purple | Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms |